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An Synopsis, and
Suspended Animation.

Of Syncope

This disease depends upon a diminution or suspension of the motions of the heart.

Its symptoms are a sense of languor, and Anxiety about the heart, giddiness & dimness of sight, noise in the ears, Qwish, weak or Absent pulse, paleness, Coldness of the hands & feet, cold sweat on the forehead, a Cessation or suspension of the animal functions of sense & motion. During the recovery from Syncope, we Observe a Continuance of the Anxiety about the heart, Vomiting, and convulsions. ——

Women are more subject to this disease. It is sometimes a hereditary and now & then a family disease, but it does not shorten life. I knew a Citizen of Philadelphia who lived to be 90, who had been afflicted with it for

40 years.

Its Causes are Local & general. The former are Omission, Polypus, Dropsy & Ossification of the Heart, or a Disease in some of the large blood Vessels that are contiguous to it. Syncope from these Causes is for the most part Incurable. It may be known by its not having any long remissions, and by being indeed by light Causes.

The general Causes are such as act upon the Whole System. Those are

1 Profuse Natural or Artificial Hemorrhages.
2 Great inanition from any Cause.
3 Excessive pain, or the sudden Apation of it.
4 Violent Emotions of the Mind.
5 Disagreeable Sights & fœtid Odors.
6 Certain Antipathies to things not naturally

6 disagreeable.

7 Offensive matters in the stomach such as putrid bile, and indigestible Aliments.

8 Great heat.

9 Drinking Cold water, or any other cold liquor when the body is unusually Warm.

10 Contagious & miasmatic exhalations at=
=ting suddenly upon the body.

It is only when Syncope arises from these general Causes that it does upon the Duration of life. The Remedies for Syncope divide them=
=selves into two Classes.

I Such as proper in a paroxysm of the disease.

II Such as proper to prevent its recurrence

To the I head belong Depressed.

1 A recumbent posture with the head a little

2 Fresh Air. This must be obtained by

opening doors & windows, and permitting as few persons as possible to be near the person affected. 3. Cold water sprinkled on the face.

2 Applying stimulating substances to the nose such as volatile salts, snuff & burnt feathers.

5 Frictions to the whole body.

6 Stimulating injections into the bowels, &

7 Stimulating applications to the feet, and other parts of the body that posess great sensi= =bility, or ~~ratacsis~~ a prompt & extensive sympathy with the whole body.

~~Cold~~ baths & the removal of all its exciting causes.

There are several cases of Syncope which require specific & appropriate remedies in addition to those which have been mentioned.

1 When the Diacrae arises from great heat the ~~remedies should~~ the hands & feet should be put into ~~water~~ Water heated above the heat of the body. ——

2

II.

2 when Syncope arises from ~~Cold~~ Drinking
cold Liquors, ~~the~~ Laudanum ~~the~~ or Ardent
Spirits should be given in liberal doses.

II. To prevent the recurrence of Syncope
the Remedies should be exercise, the cold
Bath, Chalybeates, Lime, Bark, and a habit
gradually acquired of existing all its remote
and existing Causes.

On Suspended Animation.

There are two grades of apparent death. The One
first has been called by the Common people a
Trance, the other Asphixia. In the former
the whole body apparently dies, except those
parts in which the sense of hearing, and the
mind are seated, and which in consequence thereof
still retain some degree of Activity. As the disease
generally comes on in the Close of a fit of sickness
at a time when the thoughts are wholly directed
to the World of Spirits, the mind in a Trance
from the habit it has recently acquired, continues
to dwell upon the Scenes of happiness or misery
which it had anticipated, and which from its
debilitated state it now supposes to be present.
After such persons recover, they honestly
relate

relate as genuine Visions or revelations, what they have Dreamed, or seen only as more illusi=ons, or vivid exercises of the mind shut up in the brain. Or, if they are not indeed by the previous train of thinking of the sick person, the Conversations which usually take place in the same room with the apparently dead body, may suggest them, for they are generally upon subjects related to those which are supposed to be Visions or revelations. A certain Thomas Say formerly of this city ~~Lay~~ who lay a Day, for some time ~~in this situation of a~~ as a dead man, After his resuscitation mentioned the names of two persons who had died while he was in that situation, one of whom he said he saw in a place of happiness, & the other in the State of misery. This ~~Vision~~ Knowledge was

supposed by himself, and his friends to be
~~miraculous~~ communicated to him in a
supernatural manner, but there can be
but little doubt but that heard this deaths
spoken of in the room in which his body
was laid out, and that he fixed them in the a
state of happiness and misery from his previous
knowledge of their moral Characters, or from
his having heard ~~of them~~ what they were from the persons
who mentioned the amounts of their deaths.
In the
~~The~~ second grade of ~~Death~~ Suspended Animation
which ~~has~~ has been called Asphixia, there is a
total Absence of heat, Sensation, and apparently
of motion, as also of all the exercises of the
mind. Its causes are
1 Offensive matters in the stomach. Half
baked bread induced it in a Gentleman of this

city while on his travels in France.

2 Intense Cold. Animals ~~who~~ that sleep during the
Winter, are affected with Asphixia.

3 Immersion in Water. 4 Hanging. 5 Conv=
=tagions & ~~the~~ exhalations of all kinds, par=
Carbonic Acid Gas, and ~~the~~
=ticularly ~~those of the~~
Putrid are of the
~~both~~ Animal & Vegetable Nature.

6 Lightning. 7 Intoxication & & Violent emotions
and pasions of the Mind.

The following Signs will serve to distin=
=guish apparent death, from that which is
real.

1 The Absence of the pallid & contracted face of
death.

2 The absence of Stiffness in the limbs

3 The long Duration of warmth upon the Skin.
There is sometimes a transient heat which
succeeds the Coldness of the Skin, after death

which arises from ~~its~~ the passage of the heat
internal to the external parts of the body.
This heat soon passes away, and is very
different from that which continues for
12 or 24 hours after death.

5 Sweats on any part of the body.

6 The discharge of Urine & stools.

7 The appearance of Vapor upon a looking
glass held before the mouth.

8 The appearance of motion upon the Sur-
face of a tumbler of water placed upon the
ensiform Cartilage.

Life may be suspended with the ab-
sence of all these signs, and death may be
real where most of them take place. Of this
I have seen several instances in the Course

of my practice. ~~The body generally discloses in the~~ All the signs that have been mentioned as indicate partial life, and when not, ~~in~~ ^ seated in very irritable parts, or connected with them by strong affinities, they soon perish, nor can life often be restored by the application of the most powerful stimulants to them.

~~The Remedies for~~ ~~both these Species of~~ ~~suspended~~ If shall begin the Cure of suspended animation by first mentioning the Remedies for what has been called Asphixia. In doing so, I shall I take Notice of such as are proper for it from its Causes generally. and II Mention such as proper for it from each of its Causes.

To the
In Head belong
1 placing the body in an easy & natural

V that inflating the lungs with re-
=spired Air has a greater power of
recalling life, ~~to~~ than pure atmos=
=pherical Air. Drowned infants are
recuspitated in this way. It is probable
the same ~~good~~ effects would not be
produced by means of Common Air.
Linnæus revived his Youngest daugh.r:
who was apparently dead drown by blow=
=ing his breath into her lungs. There
is an Account in the German Ephe=
=merides of a woman being revived
in the same way. [It is probable
go to 4.

and stripping it of such Clothing, and
ligatures employed in Dress, as may tend to
retard the returns of life.

2 Warmth & friction to every part of
the body. They should be gentle or forcible,
according to the supposed accumulation, or
expenditure of excitability by the sudden or
gradual Suspension of life. They should be
~~Gentle~~ gentle in the former, & forcible
in the latter case.

3 Inflating the lungs with air by placing
the nostril ~~of~~ a pair of bellows in one nostril,
and stopping the other. This practice is found-
=ed upon the necessity & importance of this
in beginning and supporting Animal
life. There are facts that make it probable

~~4 Stimulating Physicians of large Quantities of Air or Waters, or small Quantities of Substances that act by their Quality.~~

4 Physicians that Stimulate by their Quantity as Air or Waters, or by their Quality as Spirit of Turpentine, & Oil and Ardent Spirits. the resuscitation of the Shunamite Son mentioned in the Old testament was effected by in part by this Means. The words which contain the history of this work are as follow. "And she went up and lay upon the Child, & put his mouth upon his mouth, & his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands, and he stretched himself upon the Child and the flesh of the Child waxed warm." This process was repeated after a short interval,

upon which we are told the Child sneezed
seventimes & opened its eyes." Kings II. Ch: 5.
V: 34 & 35.. I have said the recupitation of this
Child was effected probably by these Natural
means, but an efficacy was no doubt
imparted to them by a Supernatural power.
It is in this way we often find a Concur-
-rence of natural and Supernatural power
in many of the events recorded in the old
and new testaments. Perhaps the inspired
Air employed in all the Cases that have
been mentioned acts more certainly than
atmospherical Air from its being somewhat
rarified, and thus more accommodated to the
excitability of the lungs.

4 Stimulating substances conveyed into
the Stomach by means of a tube contrived
for that purpose are calculated to

V 6 Stimulating applications to the ~~Skin~~ external parts of the body. I have read an account of a young man who had lain three days in a state of apparent death, being revived by pinching a large portion of his flesh. In this case the muscles were probably the last retreat of departing life. He did not revive until some days after the application of the remedy. ~~The parts that was~~ Cutting the flesh should not be neglected in desperate cases. This remedy is suggested by the cases of ~~recoveries~~ ~~tories~~ that are upon record of persons discovering signs of life, and even recovering afterwards from the first incision of a dissecting knife. If the cutting the flesh be objected to, boiling water may be applied to the Skin. It will most useful - to the Navel, breast & head.

excite and
diffuse Action over the Whole body. This
tube should be a little bent so as to enter
into the Oesophagus thro the nose when
the it cannot be made to enter the mouth.

5 Clysters rendered stimulating by this
Quantity such as Air or Water, or by this
Quality such as Spirit of turpentine, Wine or
Ardent Spirits. The importance of this remedy
is suggested by the intestines being the in many
instances the last retreat of the Disorder=
=ibility of the System.

V 6 Certain Stimulants applied to parts endowed
with a peculiar & specific sensibility, such as
the nose, the ears, the lips, the skin,
the navel, & the windpipe.
The Soles of the feet, parts
In favor of general
Upon the efficacy of Stimulants to of those
some corresponding facts.
I shall mention
Certain Odors such as Vol: Salt, Asafatida, Gar=
=lic or Onions have sometimes produced recupera=
=tion when the Disease has been of a transient

V a ~~[illegible]~~ lord
in one instance,
scream, and a friend hymn have
~~recalled~~ in another have recalled
life when it was apparently extinct

6

Nature. I mentioned formerly an instance
of hysterical Syncope or Asphixia being in-
=stantly cured by the Voice of a Physician
foot.

2 the human Voice and Sounds of different
kinds have ~~not~~ produced excitation by
exciting impressions upon the Nerves. A Whisper
will sometimes have that effect, when loud
Speaking will do no Service. ~~Nothing~~ ~~effected~~ will do something
analagous to this, in waking persons from
Ordinary Sleep. The ~~th~~ impression of the
Whisper in this case is exactly proportioned
to the excitability of the ~~Organ~~ Sense of hearing.
Talking of the time & place of interring a person
who was supposed to be dead in the same room
in which he was laid out as a Corpse, suddenly
~~was~~ excited his suspended life. ~~This person~~
~~was~~ ~~laid~~ ~~It did Effects~~ Loud noises have
sometimes had the same Salutary effect. V

a man who was supposed to have died of a
bilious fever in Tennessee in the year 1812,
was put into his coffin, and deposited in
his grave. ~~Upon~~ The noise of the first
spadeful of earth that was thrown upon
his coffin produced a ~~person~~ person that was dis-
-tinctly heard by the person that surrounded
his grave. The coffin was raised & opened,
and its tenant taken out, and completely
restored to life. In all these cases of recupita-
-tion by impressions made upon the cass,
the body was in what is called a Trance,
but as the same state of the cass and
mind may take place in Asphixia, it will
be proper to make use of them with other
remedies.

3 The Grandmother of an irish Gentleman
now of this city was recupitated by her lap
dog jumping upon her coffin & licking

5 V There is a degree of Specific Sensibility
in the Nerves. ~~Let Dr. Darwin~~ Sylvanus
~~writers~~ alludes to it when he compares
"the fear of the Lord, and departing from evil"
to "health"; or as it ought to have been trans=
-lated "medicine to the navel" from which
it appears that stimulating medicines
were formerly applied to the part
of the body. — There can be no doubt of their
efficacy in light cases of suspended Animation.

7 her lips and Nose just before the hour ap-
=pointed for her interment, and after the
Company had assembled to follow her to the
grave. Dropping water from the height of
four or five feet upon the upper lip for
a few minutes has been known to
produce resuscitation when apparent death has been induced by transient causes.

4 Impressions made upon the soles of the
feet by tickling them, also by strong irritants
have had in some instances a prompt
effect in this disease.

5 In favor of the application of stimulants
to the Windpipe, Dr Jones relates the following
fact in his Vulgar Errors in Medicine. A
Gentleman in Devonshire who had lived fruly,
died and was laid out in state. His butler went
into the room where he lay in order to give
each of the persons who watched his corpse

during the night a glass of brandy. When he came
to the body of his former master he said "Come
old Gentleman I will not pass you. You shall
have a glass now you are dead of what you
loved ~~so much~~ while you were alive" & then
opening his mouth he poured it into a glass
of the Spirit some of which passed thro his
glottis into his Windpipe, and excited a cough
which set the blood of his whole body in motion,
and thus brought back his life. The mode of
exciting the Lungs which has been suggested
by this Accident is capable of being improved
by employing Substances more Active that
Air to excite the Action of the Lungs; and thus
to produce Respiration.

I shall now mention certain additional
remedies for Asphixia
remedies united to its particular Causes.

1 When Asphixia arises from Offensive Matter

8 in the stomach, a Solution of Tartar emetic,
or the Sulphate of Zinc should be conveyed by
a tube into the stomach in order if popible
to excite a Vomiting. If this be impracticable,
powerful irritants should be applied to a part
or the whole of the parts of the body before men-
-tioned.

2 In Asphixia from Cold, the additional
remedy, of warmth a few degrees above the
temperature of the body applied in the form
of Air or Water will be proper.

3 In asphixia from drowning the remedies
should be besides those which have been menti-
-oned, the extraction of Water from the lungs
by means of an instrument Contrived for that
purpose by Dr Goodwin. The Doctor has proved
that death is not induced by this Water in the
lungs, but by the want of the usual stimulus

of oxygen upon them.

[It has often been asked why a body which has perished from drowning, first sinks, & in the course of a day or two, or a longer time floats upon the surface of the water. To this question I answer, the body in its first immersion contracts from cold, or fear, or both, at which time it becomes specifically heavier than the water. When this contraction is relaxed by death, the body rises and floats upon the surface of the water from its specific gravity becoming the same as that of the water. It is probable life is not completely extinguished, until the contraction of the body is completely resolved. Perhaps the extrication of air from the contents of the bowels and its dispersion thro the bowels may help to elevate it upon the surface of the water.]

9

9 4 Asphixia from hanging has been supposed
to arise from a stoppage of the reflux of blood
from the brain, but late experiments prove that
it is indeed wholly by the stoppage of respiration.
Bloodletting is commonly prescribed for it under
a belief that the disease was an Apoplexy, but
it is very improper. The remedies formerly
recommended, particularly the excitement of the
lungs should be relied upon for a cure.

5 Asphixia from Carbonic acid gas, Contagious
and miasmatic exhalations should be treated
with all the remedies that have mentioned &
particularly with fresh air. Its efficacy is
strongly enforced by the case recorded by Dr Ty-
=Denham of a man who was supposed
dead from the small pox, being revived & cured
by opening the windows in which ~~he was laid~~ he
was laid, and placing him in a stream of

fresh air with nothing but a winding sheet upon his body.

6 Asphixia from Lightning it is said has been cured by the application of Electricity to parts of the body that have not been injured by the lightning. I mentioned some facts in support of this remedy in our Thera-
-peutics.

7 Asphixia from Intoxication has often been cured by the affusion of Cold water upon the head. When Drunkenness was more com-
=mon in our City than it is at present, I have seen it cured by Dragging the patient to a pump & pumping water upon him for ten, or fifteen minutes. The Cure has been so complete by this remedy, that the patient has walked home without staggering from the place where it was used.

10

& Asphixia from violent emotions of
mind require no ~~Spec~~ other remedies than
those mentioned under our general head.

~~In cases of~~ After a recovery from asphixia,
the System sometimes reacts with so much
force, as to require bleeding to reduce it. This
should never be omitted when indicated. From
neglecting it, Chronic diseases & death
have sometimes followed a supposed
Cure of apparent death.

I have thus mentioned all the
usual Remedies for Asphixia, & some
new Ones. ~~I shall only add that they~~
~~are not proper in the Convulsive~~
~~&~~ The same remedies are often used
for what is called a Fainting, but very

improperly when it follows a chronic
Disease, or an exhausted state of the
excitability of the System. The most
lenient Stimulants only are proper in
these Cases. Perhaps in most cases it
would be safest to leave the patient in
a warm bed, and in an airy room,
wholly to the influence of the ordinary
Stimuli that support Animal life.

The Signs of death are 1 a Chromi=
=nes of the Skin, 2 an Acid or Alkaline
odor issuing from the body. 3 a total
relaxation of the Sphincter Ani, & 4 the
factor which accompanies putrefaction. This
factor, I acknowledge sometimes takes place in malignant
fevers without being followed by death. Sir
John Pringle takes notice of it. I have

12 dence seem it, and a recovery take place af=
-terwards in a young lady in this city, for
which reason it should never be relied
on without the previous marks concurring
with it. In all cases where the transition
from apparent health to death, or where has been sudden
a disease has terminated in death prema=
-turely, or before it has run its ordinary
course, and both without an obvious fatal cause,
interment should be delayed until
more or less of the signs of death have taken
place, and the body should be kept in
a situation favourable to its recuperation,
& remedies should be employed for that
purpose.

There can be no doubt but that
many persons have been buried, who have
~~boarders~~
been apparently dead, only, from the

neglect of the above circumstances. Hu-
=manity has often often shuddered at
the thoughts of it, but there is no occasi-
=on for sympathy as far as it relates to
pain and suffering in these cases. For
resuscitation can never take place in a
tight Coffin either in the grave or out
of it to such a degree as to excite either
Consciousness, or pain. ——